

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 CIEP-03

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APPROVED BY EUR: W. STABLER

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P 030036Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217784

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, MT

SUBJECT: EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM

REF: STATE 201425

1. MALTESE EMBASSY CHARGE, ALFRED BELLIZZI, HAS RELAYED A MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF TO ISA ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERT ELLSWORTH ASKING FOR ELLSWORTH'S INTERCESSION TO PERSUADE STATE TO FUND TRAVEL COSTS OF EOD TEAM.

2. THE MESSAGE THAT BELIZZI WAS INSTRUCTED TO DELIVER CONTENDS THAT QUOTE: ON 27TH AUGUST THE U.S. EMBASSY IN MALTA INFORMED THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS THAT A NAVAL TEAM WOULD BE SENT TO MALTA FOR DISCUSSIONS TO BE FOLLOWED BY A TEAM AND EQUIPMENT WITHOUT CHARGE TO THE MALTA GOVERNMENT. ON SEPTEMBER 18, THE U.S. EMBASSY INFORMED THE MINISTER THAT THE TEAM AND EQUIPMENT WOULD ONLY BE SENT ON PAYMENT. END QUOTE.

3. WE DO NOT PLAN TO CONTEST POINT WITH MALTESE GOVERNMENT, BUT FOR THE RECORD WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS
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ON WHAT WAS INITIALLY SAID TO MALTESE ABOUT HOW TEAM'S

TRAVEL EXPENSES WERE TO BE FUNDED. MAW

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Message Attributes

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